



State of California
Respiratory Care Board
444 North 3rd Street, Suite 270
Sacramento, CA 95814
Telephone (916) 323-9983
Fax (916) 323-9999
www.rcb.ca.gov



September 13, 2001

Inquiry: I am writing today to ask a very specific question regarding the field of Respiratory Therapy. I have a client who has a medical condition and would like to go into a training program to become a Respiratory Therapist. She has Hydrocephalus where she has to have spinal fluid drained from her brain every so often. My question is would she be able to go into the field of her choice given she has this medical condition. I am hesitant to send her into a training program, when upon completion she may be unable to work in that field.

Response: The Respiratory Care Practice Act (RCPA) does not dictate admission policies as they relate to schools of respiratory care. The RCPA indicates that a person, educated in an accredited school, who passes their exams, passes the state's licensing examination, be granted a license to practice respiratory care in the State of California.

Reference # 2001-C-33